

Oregon

Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

Rogue, Umpqua, & Coquille Basin Habitat Priorities

Biological Description

Combinations of topography, geology, soils, and climatic influences at the convergence of southwestern Oregon's Cascade, Siskiyou, and Klamath mountain ranges have resulted in a unique array of plants and animals. Species typically found in ecologically distinct regions come together to create species richness and diversity unmatched anywhere in the Cascade Mountains. The area supports several listed and endemic plant species as well as diverse and productive wetland and riparian habitats. Development pressure has contributed to habitat loss and fragmentation.

Our focus within the resource rich Rogue, Umpqua, and Coquille basins is restoration of wetland, riparian, instream, oak savanna and prairie, and vernal pool habitats to target recovery of 7 listed plants and to provide habitat benefits to 6 listed and species of concern fish, 1 listed invertebrate, and 4 species of concern reptiles and amphibians.

Priority Habitats/Key Resources

Oak Woodlands

Wetlands and Riparian

Agate Desert Vernal Pools

Fish Passage and In-Stream Habitat

Migratory Birds

Focus species include: listed rough popcorn flower, Kincaid's lupine, Gentner's fritillary, large-flowered woolly meadowfoam, western lily, Cook's lomatium, vernal pool fairy shrimp, coho and Chinook salmon. Species of concern include: coastal cutthroat trout, Pacific lamprey, Hitchcock's blue-eyed grass, Koehler's rockcress, red root yampah, wayside aster, western pond turtle, several amphibians and reptiles, and Columbia white-tailed deer (recently delisted sub-population).

Important Factors

The Rogue and Umpqua basins offer the Service opportunities to work with local communities to spearhead recovery of listed plants through implementation of sustainable growth and habitat restoration plans. Work on recovery of Kincaid's lupine will compliment efforts in the Willamette Valley by expanding recovery actions into the southern portion of the species' range. The Coquille basin offers the Service unique opportunities to work within the timber and agricultural communities to provide technical assistance and funding to proactively restore anadromous fish passage, increase stream complexity and floodplain connectivity, restore wetlands, and establish riparian vegetation to improve stream condition for aquatic species.

The Roseburg Field Office is ideally situated within the focus area to provide leadership, technical assistance, and administer projects to restore key habitats and to direct recovery implementation. Other federal and local efforts to reduce fire hazards provide opportunities to work with local communities and private landowners to include habitat and species conservation elements into projects.

The Rogue, Umpqua, and Coquille focus area is still in the partnership development phase. Recent urban growth has made local communities more conscious of needs to preserve open space and unique habitats, providing an excellent opportunity for development of Partners projects. Potential partners include soil and water conservation districts, watershed councils, local communities, private landowners, counties, and non-profit groups. Other potential partners include the Umpqua Regional Council of Governments (URCOG) and Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG), and the Cities of Sutherlin, Medford and Ashland, Oregon.